

Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

Yes. Consumers have been and should remain able to time-, device-, and location-shift their viewing -- and this broadcast flag will interfere with that legitimate practice.

Would the digital flag interfere with consumers ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks connecting digital set top boxes, digital recorders, digital servers and digital display devices? Absolutely -- exactly as described in its implementation documents, it is **intended** to interfere with this ability.

Would the broadcast flag requirement limit consumers ability to use their existing electronic equipment (equipment not built to look for the flag) or make it difficult to use older components with new equipment that is compliant with the broadcast flag standard? The flag would make it impossible to use existing equipment with the new broadcasts, as documented to date.

Would a broadcast flag requirement limit the development of future equipment providing consumers with new options? This flag, taken in combination with other recent restrictions on Fair Use (including the DMCA among others), would entirely block the development of future equipment by any but the few who could afford to license the existing technology from the cartel holding the keys. This is contrary to good public policy.

What will be the cost impact, if any, that a broadcast flag requirement would have on consumer electronics equipment?

Minimally, the impact will be hundreds of dollars, to adapt all current equipment in my household. More likely, the impact will be thousands of dollars, to replace all current equipment -- simply to continue doing what I have been doing!